

# IDAHO NEWS RELEASE



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## Winter Wheat and Barley Produce Record Yields

Idaho's 2004 barley crop achieved a new record yield, and the 2004 winter wheat crop equaled the existing record yield, according to the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service. Barley yield is estimated at 92.0 bushels per acre, surpassing the previous record of 80.0 bushels per acre recorded in 1995 and 1993. The barley yield is 26.0 bushels more than last year's yield of 66.0 bushels per acre. Barley production totaled 59.8 million bushels from 650,000 harvested acres, up 26 percent from last year's production of 47.5 million bushels. Idaho's 2004 all wheat production increased 20 percent from 2003 to 102 million bushels. Winter wheat yield, at 90.0 bushels per acre, equals the record yield set in 2000. The winter wheat yield is up 10.0 bushels from last year. Winter wheat production totaled 63.0 million bushels from 700,000 harvested acres, up 9 percent from last year's 57.6 million bushels. The 2004 winter wheat production is estimated to be 84 percent white and 16 percent red. Spring wheat yield, at 79.0 bushels per acre, is up 13.0 bushels from a year ago. Idaho's spring wheat production totaled 38.7 million bushels from 490,000 harvested acres, up 43 percent from last year's 27.1 million bushels. The spring wheat crop is estimated to be 45 percent white and 55 percent hard red. Oat yield, at 72.0 bushels per acre, is up 7.0 bushels from 2003. Oat production totaled 1.44 million bushels from 20,000 harvested acres. This production is 11 percent lower than last year's 1.63 million bushels.

Nationally, all wheat production for 2004 totaled 2.16 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the last forecast, but 8 percent below 2003. Winter wheat production is estimated at 1.50 billion bushels, up nearly 1 percent from the August forecast but 13 percent below 2003. The U. S. yield is 43.5 bushels per acre, 3.2 bushels below last year's final yield. Acreage harvested for grain, at 34.5 million acres, is 6 percent below last year. Other spring wheat production totaled 574 million bushels, up 5 percent from the August forecast and 8 percent more than 2003. Harvested area is 13.3 million acres, 1 percent lower than last year. The U. S. yield is a record high 43.1 bushels per acre, 3.6 bushels better than last year and 1.3 bushels higher than the previous record set in 1992. Barley production is estimated at 280 million bushels, up 3 percent from the August forecast and up 1 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 4.03 million acres, is the smallest since 1894, but yield is a new record high, 7.0 bushels above the previous record of 62.5 bushels per acre set in 1992. Oat production is estimated at 117 million bushels, 9 percent below the August forecast and 19 percent below last year's 144 million bushels. Harvested area is 1.81 million acres, 19 percent below last year. This is the smallest oat acreage harvested for grain on record, continuing a steady downward trend.

For More Information Call: (208) 334-1507.